

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) ~~A composition which stimulates thermogenesis, for oral administration;~~ An oral composition for stimulating thermogenesis comprising capsaicinoids in combination with a formulation base which is acceptable for oral administration:

said formulation base consists essentially of at least one vegetable and/or mineral oil selected from soya oil, sunflower oil, corn oil, olive oil, nut oil, and a liquid paraffin, and a lipophilic additive selected from polyethylene glycol, beeswax, candelilla wax, carnauba wax, polyethylene oxide wax, petroleum wax, and glycerol palmitostearate, wherein said lipophilic additive is solid or pasty at room temperature, the lipophilic additive amounting to approximately 10 to 20% by weight of the composition, and wherein the composition is a dosage form chosen between soft or hard capsules, and wherein the composition comprises approximately 5% by weight beeswax and approximately 5% by weight glycerol palmitostearate based on the total composition.

2-16. (Canceled)

17. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the capsaicinoids are present in the composition as capsicum resin.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the capsaicinoids represent 0.02 to 5% by weight of the composition.

19. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the vegetable oil is selected from soya oil, sunflower oil, and a mixture thereof.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition comprises one or more physiologically active components other than the capsaicinoids.

21. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 20, wherein the other physiologically active component(s) amount to 10 to 30% by weight of the composition.

22. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 20, wherein at least one among the other physiologically active components is a plant or a plant extract selected from green tea, alga *Ascophyllum nodosum*, mate tea, guarana, ephedra, ~~or~~ citrus aurantium, and mixtures thereof.

23. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 20, wherein at least one among the other physiologically active components is a sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid.

24-25. (Canceled)

26. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, in the form of a soft capsule, comprising:

- 15 mg capsicum oleoresin,
- 150 mg green tea extract,
- 75 mg sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid,
- 200 mg soya oil,
- 16 mg soya lecithin,
- 29 mg yellow beeswax, and
- 25 mg glycerol palmitostearate.

27. (Withdrawn) The composition of claim 1, in the form of a soft capsule, comprising:

- 15 mg capsicum oleoresin,
- 150 mg *Ascophyllum nodosum* powder,
- 75 mg sunflower oil which is rich in conjugated linoleic acid,

- 200 mg soya oil,
- 16 mg soya lecithin,
- 29 mg yellow beeswax, and
- 25 mg glycerol palmitostearate.

28. (Withdrawn) A method for stimulating thermogenesis comprising the administration of a composition as claimed in claim 1.

29. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for stimulating thermogenesis without exerting an irritant effect on the gastric mucosa.

30. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for additionally reducing the appetite.

31. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 28, for reducing or preventing the appearance of cellulite, excess weight, obesity, digestive problems and circulation problems, in particular hypercholesterolemia.

32. (Withdrawn) The method as claimed in claim 31, wherein said digestive problems are flatulence, gastric ulcers, gastroesophageal reflux and intestinal infections.

33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 18, wherein the capsaicinoids represent 0.1 to 2% by weight of the composition.

35.-36. (Canceled)